



MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE

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LINDA McCULLOCH

EXHIBIT # 8

DATE 2-16-11

HB 530

HB 530: Counties to prepare absentee ballots before Election Day

House State Administration, RM 455

February 16, 2011 @ 8 AM

Secretary Linda McCulloch's Testimony

- Good morning Madam Chair, members of the committee. For the record, I am Linda McCulloch, Montana Secretary of State.
- I stand in support of this bill, because it supports the important work of Montana's 56 county Election Administrators.
- Thank you Representative Washburn for bringing this legislation forward, and for taking my concerns into consideration by drafting an amendment to clarify that counties have **the option** to prepare their absentee ballots early, or wait until Election Day.
 - ***Amendment changes language from "shall" to "may"
- Help counties alleviate the administrative burdens that occur on Election Day. Vote "yes" for HB 530.
- Thank you for your time.